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Application No.	Applicant(s)	
10/767,857	AMAKO ET AL.	
Examiner	Art Unit	
Geoffrey S. Evans	1725	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--All claims being allowable. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308. 1. A This communication is responsive to the amendment of 14 September 2005. 2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 and 3-9. 3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) 🔯 All b) Some* c) None of the: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * Certified copies not received: Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE. 4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient. 5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted. (a) Including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d). 6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL. Attachment(s) 1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) 2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 6. Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), 7. X Examiner's Amendment/Comment Paper No./Mail Date 4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit 8. X Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance of Biological Material 9. DOther

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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 9: On line 1 delete "any of".

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Regarding claim 9, none of the references of record discloses or suggests, alone or in combination, a laser welding method comprising: a direction setting step of turning an array of focused beam spots obtained from the plurality of laser beams about the zero-order diffracted laser beam in accordance with a direction of an array of a plurality of welding points at which parts mounted on a circuit board are welded to the board, an interval setting step for causing an interval between the plurality of welding points in the array by adjusting the distance from the diffractive optical element to the board; and a connecting step for increasing the intensity of the plurality of laser beams to such an intensity that is necessary for welding, and connecting the patrts to the board by simultaneously irradiating the plurality of working points with the focused beam spots in the array having the direction and the interval determined in the preceeding steps.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably Application/Control Number: 10/767,857 Page 3

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accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Geoffrey S Evans whose telephone number is (571)-272-1174. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 6:30AM to 4:00 PM, alternate Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tom Dunn can be reached on (571)-272-1171. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571)-273-8300.

GSE

Geoffrey S. Evans
Primary Examiner
Group 1700